

# THE ENIGMATIC REBUS

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Those who enjoyed Mary Youngquist's "Loony Logos" and "Loony Logos Revisited" in the May 1971 and February 1972 Word Ways may be interested in the National Puzzlers' League's favorite puzzle, the rebus. Mary is the present editor of their monthly publication, The Enigma, from which the rebi in this article were taken. The rebus is the same as the Loony Logo in principle, but differs in economy (a good rebus contains many fewer letters) and hence in content (any word or group of words is rebus material, but most common phrases cannot be readily rebized). There is overlap, of course; February's GSEG = scrambled eggs and PIPRE = Pied Piper are venerable rebi.

Probably the two rebi most frequently rediscovered are B = abalone (a B alone) and SR = rafters (R after S), but the best rebi are much more involved. Some good examples are:

- a. TH = put them in use (put THE minus E)
- b. MB Y = the bandit sprinted after the money (the B and it's printed after the M, one Y)
- c. M: N: : K: RE = mist on a ski store (M is to N as K is to RE)
- d. D = dispersed (D is per se D) - see ampersand in Web II
- e. YLD = the little lady first (the little L, a D, Y first)
- f. WORL = world without end - see May 1971 Loony Logo #2  
MEEMO
- g. L C = lover, come back to me (L, over C, OME back to ME)  
FL
- h. FL = an upper flat is higher up than a lower flat (an upper F, L at is higher up than a lower F, L at)
- i. Y CHAR = the youth in the car (the Y out, H in the CAR)

Of course, these are far harder to guess than Loony Logos, and frequently have multiple answers. In the Enigma, further clues are provided by giving the length(s) of the word(s) in the answer, plus a little verse containing hints to the solution. In the sampling below, the verses have been omitted; instead, short clue phrases, mostly straightforward, are given. In the "word lengths" column an asterisk indicates a capitalized word; for example, June in January is coded as \*4 2 \*7.

Answers will be found in Answers and Solutions at the end of this issue.

1.	De ho	1 5 4 2 7	much consideration
2.	o o o o o <sup>o</sup>	3 4 7	death of a cowboy
3.	C TR T	10	dispute by reasoning
4.	HO T T	2 6 7	after further consideration
5.	STIK	5 5	dilemma
6.	IVI M	4 4 5 3 3 4 8	disassemble and reassemble them
7.	WI L S L	"*5 3 *7" 2 *6	noted poem and poet
8.	O O	6 2 5	pirate treasure
9.	STM	6 3 4	as a common sailor
10.	MO AR O	5 2 2 3 4	for us, a silent film
11.	B T C US	5-8 6	cereus grandiflorus
12.	MYEC	12	abdominal operation
13.	ST H	11	reserved; uncordial
14.	D I A E	*8 3 *6	Greek god and goddess
15.	TRLAH	9	maze
16.	Paee Haee Cigarettes	9	maladminister
17.	R RE R	6-4	undistinguished
18.	SGT	11	distinguished
19.	ARMANY	1 5 2 *7	eine Schmiede
20.	DENEBELLATRIX	8 5	Cepheid variables
21.	TF L U	10	without incident

22.	m = o n = t	11	hater of tobacco smoke
23.	WEST W E F	6 2 5, 7 2 4	in union there is strength
24.	N DTII	3 6 11	the USA
25.	T BS	10	femurs
26.	A R D BO	4 3 10	without deception
27.	JOWHATAN	4'1 2 1 4?	Juliet's question
28.	A UNU	2 13 7 2	our unwritten agreement
29.	AC	3 6 2 10	cynosure
30.	OF	3 9 2 3 3	the battle of Borodino (said Talleyrand)
31.	PL M T	8	where politicians stand
32.	C T CY	13	crystal-gazing
33.	SET OER Y	3 *8 6	relativity
34.	PFGDYS	4 2 6 4	friends from the past
35.	:IAL.	3 8 6	pre-1776
36.	AB	5 3 4 2 4	when many a heart is aching
37.	* * * YF	3 5 2 2 6	floral preference
38.	EWDD	5 3 5	took to dinner

Credits: A. Chem 1; Allez 2-3; Amor 4; Anonymous 5-6; Arcanus 7; Arty Ess and I Tappa Ke 8; Azungu 9; Blackstone a,10; B. Natural f, 23-24; Damonomad and LN 11; Dorset 12; D.R. 13; Effie Cee 14; Ellsworth 15; Emmo W. 16; Eugene 17; Evergreen b,c,18-21; Fiddle 22; Fluke 25; Frinkus 26; Gi Gantic d; H.C. McLaughlin 27; Ho-Ho 28; Hoodwink i,29-34; Ixaxar 35-37; K.G. 38; Orion g; Viking e,h.

Slight changes have been made in rebi 17, 32 and 38.